Listing of Claims

1-35.(cancelled)

36. (Currently Amended) A medicament containing a carrier-drug conjugate and, optionally, a pharmaceutically compatible excipient, characterized in that

(i) the carrier is native or recombinant albumin;

(ii) the drug is a pharmaceutically [and/or diagnostically] active substance;

(iii) the drug is bound to cysteine-34 of albumin over a spacer molecule and a thiol binding group;

(iv) at least one of the spacer molecule, a linkage between spacer molecule and drug moiety and a linkage between spacer molecule and thiol binding group is cleavable hydrolytically and/or pH-dependently and/or enzymatically; and

(v) at least 0.7 mol of said drug is bound to cysteine-34 per mol of albumin.

37 (Previously Amended) A medicament according to claim 36 wherein at least one of said spacer molecule and said linkage contains a peptide bond.

38. (Withdrawn and Currently Amended) A medicament according to claim ~~36~~ 37 which is cleavable by a protease.

39. (Previously Presented) A medicament according to claim 36 wherein at least one of said space molecule and said linkage is hydrolysable in an acidic medium.

40. (Previously Presented) A medicament according to claim 36 wherein said pharmaceutical is selected from the group consisting of cytostatics, cytokines, immunosuppressants, antirheumatics, anti-inflammatories, antibiotics, analgesics, virostatics and antifungals.

41. (Currently Amended). A medicament according to claim 40 wherein the cytostatic pharmaceutically active substance is selected from the group consisting of
anthracyclines, N-nitrosoureas, alkylating agents, purine or pyrimidiine antagonists, folic acid antagonists, taxanes, camptothecins, podophyllotoxin derivatives, *Vinca* alkaloids, [calicheamicins, maytansinoids] and *cis*-configured platinum (II) complexes.

42. (Withdrawn and Currently Amended) A medicament according to claim ~~35~~ 36 wherein the diagnostically active substance contains at lease one substance selected from the group consisting of radionuclides, one or a plurality of ligands containing radionuclides, positron emitters, NMR contrast media, and fluorescing compound (s) and contrast media functional in the near IR region.

43. (Currently Amended) A medicament according to claim 36 in which the thiol binding group contains a maleinimide group, a haloacetamide group, a haloacetate group, or a pyridyldithio group~~, a vinylcarbonyl group, an aziridine group, a disulfide group or an acetylene group,~~ which groups may be substituted or unsubstituted.

44. (Currently Amended) A medicament according to claim 36 wherein said spacer molecule is selected from the group consisting of substituted or unsubstitued branched-chain or straight-chain aliphatic alkyl groups having 1 to 12 carbon atoms, and substituted or unsubstituted aryl groups [and aliphatic carbon rings having 3 to 12 carbon atoms].

45. (Previously Presented) A method for the preparation of carrier-drug conjugate contained n the medicament according to claim 36 comprising:
(i) treating a carrier with a reducing agent so that at least 0.7 mol of cysteine SH groups is present in the carrier per mol of reducible cysteine groups; and
(ii) coupling a drug to said cysteine SH groups in said carrier via the thiol-binding group.

46. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 45 wherein said reducing agent is selected from a group consisting of dithiothreitol, dithioerythritol or mercaptoethanol.

47. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 45 wherein said conjugate prepared exhibits a purity greater than 95%.

48. (Previously Presented) A medicant according to claim 36 for the treatment of cancer, autoimmune disorders, acute or chronically inflammatory diseases and diseases that are caused by infections agents, selected from the group consisting of viruses and microorganisms, in mammals in need thereof.

49-50.(cancelled)